

Winter time on Oct. 6

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan will switch back to winter time on Friday, Oct. 6, according to an official communiqué issued by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Sunday. The hands of clocks will be turned back 60 minutes at midnight Thursday, Oct. 5 to run two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Jordan switched to summer time May 8, 1989, as part of a national drive to conserve energy and reduce the country's fuel import bill. It has been estimated that by adopting summer time Jordan will save one hour of energy a day consumed for lighting by reducing the need for artificial light during the evening. This means a 20 per cent saving in energy or JD 2 million in hard currency.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
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Jordan, South Yemen set up higher committee, sign series of agreements

King, Attas voice absolute support for uprising

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and South Yemeni head of state Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas Sunday voiced their absolute backing for the 21-month-old Palestinian uprising and pledged continued commitment to collective Arab action to serve the Arab Nation's interests.

During a morning session of talks held at the Royal Court with Attas and attended by official delegations from both sides, King Hussein described the intifada as a "heroic battle" waged by the Palestinian people against occupation forces.

"Only a just and comprehensive solution can be acceptable to the coming generations," said the King.

King Hussein said the ongoing civil war in Lebanon had serious consequences on the Arab Nation's security. He paid tribute to the Arab League for reviving its tripartite committee to find a peaceful settlement in Lebanon.

King Hussein expressed hope that the current negotiations to bring permanent peace between Iran and Iraq would be crowned with success.

Referring to the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) grouping Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and North Yemen, King Hussein said his

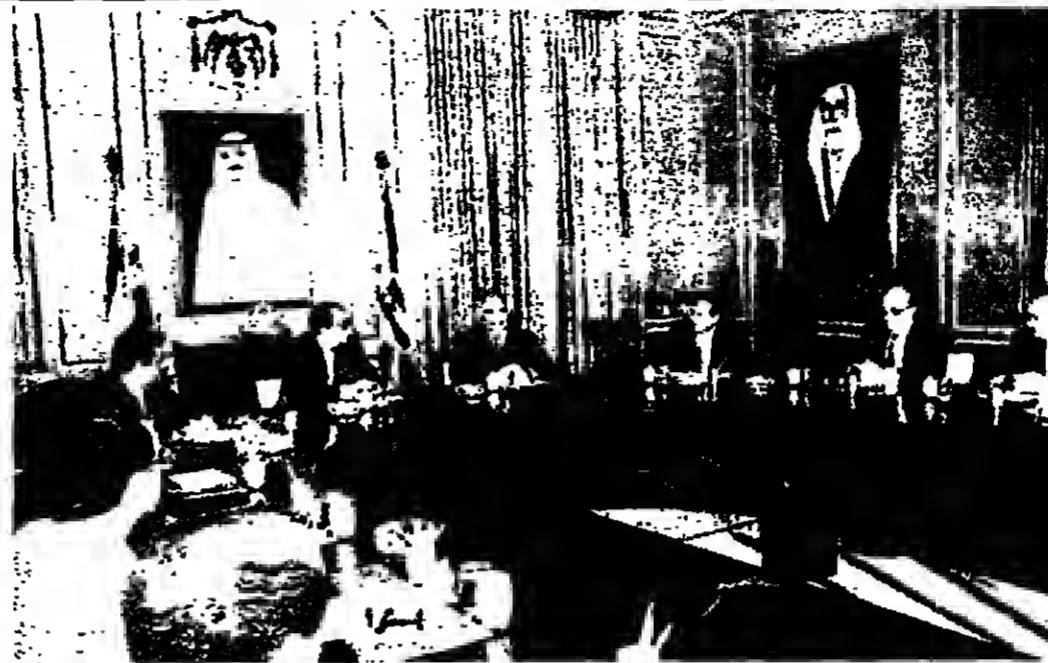
Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayoub, Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Inab, Minister of Agriculture Bassam Al Saket and Jordan's Ambassador to South Yemen Sadiq Al Bataineh. The Yemeni side included ministers of foreign affairs, industry, supply, agriculture and planning and South Yemen's ambassador to Jordan.

Later in the day, Attas and the accompanying delegation visited the Martyrs' Monument, and the Al Hussein Medical Centre.

The South Yemeni delegation also visited the tomb of the

King, Attas attend banquet

King Hussein and President Attas attended the banquet which Prime Minister Sharif Zaid held Sunday night at his residence in honour of the South Yemeni president. The banquet was also attended by the delegation accompanying President Attas and high-ranking ministers and Jordanian officials.



His Majesty King Hussein and South Yemeni leader Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas Sunday chair talks on bilateral relations and pan-Arab issues (Petra photo)

founder of Jordan, King Abdullah I and Al Hussein.

Attas and the delegation later paid a visit to the Jordan Valley, where they were received by the water and irrigation minister, the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) secretary general and Water Authority of Jordan's secretary general.

JVA Secretary General Mohammad Bani Hami presented a briefing on the integrated development programmes being carried out by the JVA in the valley.

The joint committee would include top officials from both sides who will meet annually.

Jordan has similar committees with many other countries.

Other agreements

Meanwhile, a number of agreements were signed by Jordanian and South Yemeni ministers and senior officials providing for cooperation in economic, commercial, technical, scientific, cultural, health, agricultural, cultural and informational fields.

An agreement on economic, scientific and technical coopera-

tions aims at encouraging public and private organisations to exchange expertise, visits by officials training at different educational institutions and promoting cultural cooperation. An agree-

ment on trade aims at increasing the volume of exchanged goods and cooperation in export/import areas as well as setting up trade fairs to promote the sale of national products.

Both agreements were signed by Minister of Industry and Trade Inab and his South Yemeni counterpart Abdullah Othman.

Protocols signed at the ceremony held at the Ministry of Industry and Trade covered provisions for cooperation in health matters, primary health care, studies in medical and health services, and cooperation in international conferences and scholarships as well as providing medical care for the nationals from Jordan and South Yemen at hospitals in either country.

Higher committee to be formed

Jordan and South Yemen agreed Sunday to create a joint cooperation committee which will include senior officials from both countries, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, reported.

Petri said the Joint Jordanian-South Yemeni Higher Committee

will be responsible for developing and promoting cooperation between both countries.

It will also follow up and implement agreements between Jordan and South Yemen, it said.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Qasem and his Yemeni counterpart, Abdul Aziz Al Dali, signed the agreement.

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2 Middle East News

JORDAN TIMES, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1989

Rebels claim victories in Ethiopia

NAIROBI (R) — Rebel groups in northern Ethiopia said Sunday they had extended the area under their control after halting an Ethiopian government offensive and wiping out an elite airborne division.

The Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF), linking the Tigray People's Liberation Front and the Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement, said fighting began on Aug. 29, when government forces attacked rebel-held areas.

An EPRDF communiqué telecast to Reuters from Khartoum said the rebels had wiped out Ethiopia's 605 Army Corps and the 3rd Revolutionary Front-Line Command.

The 102nd Airborne Division, which played a key role last May in crushing an attempted military coup against Ethiopian President

Mengistu Haile Mariam, was among the units destroyed, it added.

The 102nd Airborne Division had been moved from Asmara, the capital of Eritrea, to take part in the offensive. "It was the government's most elite force, known for its loyalty to the regime," the communiqué said.

The EPRDF said government forces had launched the offensive to crush the rebels. Four government divisions deployed between Maychew and Kobo had been wiped out, and tanks, guns, vehicles and millions of rounds of ammunition captured.

Atlanta peace talks

Meanwhile in Atlanta, Georgia Ethiopia and its guerrilla opponents, sapped by years of bloody conflict, have paved the way for

Carter, negotiator of landmark 1979 Camp David peace accords between Egypt and Israel, said the Atlanta meeting had not discussed a ceasefire but added he had raised this with the Ethiopian and rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) delegations.

"My hope is that if we are successful here in Atlanta we will send clear signals to Ethiopia/Eritrean people back home and that the sides will either take joint action or unilateral action (to declare ceasefire) to demonstrate good faith and confidence-building measures," he said.

"I have been informed that everyday throughout Ethiopia all the churches — the Coptic and Catholic and Protestant churches — are ringing their bells for 15 minutes just to let the leaders throughout the region know that the people themselves want peace.

"There is a great concentration of awareness, hope and prayers in that region that we can be successful here," he added.

BEIRUT BATTLES: Two militiamen of the Syrian Nationalist Socialist Party load a cannon with shell to fire against positions held by forces loyal to army commander Michel Aoun.

Fighting halts Kandahar aid convoy

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — A senior government official has said that a 1,300-vehicle supply convoy was stuck outside the provincial capital of Kandahar because government troops were unable to secure the last stretch of road from rebel attacks.

Also Saturday, Yuri Vorontsov, Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister and Ambassador to Kabul since late 1988, ended his tour. He paid a final courtesy call on President Najibullah before leaving, the Afghan News Agency Bakhtar reported.

Vorontsov, absent for most of the summer, returned last Monday but had previously said he expected to leave.

He was ambassador during the final phase of the nine-year Soviet military intervention, which ended in February. No replacement has been named.

The U.S.-backed rebels, meanwhile, continued an offensive against lines around the border city of Khost. A senior military commander said two days ago that the government had secured the area.

In Kabul, six people were killed and eight wounded by three rockets that hit a residential neighbourhood in an outlying district, the government spokesman said.

More than 300 people have died and 700 have been injured in almost daily rocket attacks since late June. The government blames them on the Pakistani-based rebels, who accuse the government of firing on its own civilians.

Deputy Prime Minister Mahmud Barayai confirmed that a large supply convoy was bogged down short of Kandahar

by heavy fighting. "The opponents are not sitting idle," he said. "They know that with the transportation of this convoy they will lose the balance of their forces."

Government officials have said the convoy, which left in late August from the town of Torgun di near the Soviet border, is carrying military and civilian supplies to keep the town going.

Baryalai, in charge of transportation and supplies, said the guerrillas were making random rocket attacks on the road in order to keep the convoy from moving. Government forces were trying to clear the area around the road of guerrillas, he said.

"In places or areas under threat we cannot try to bring the convoy," he said. "We have to be very cautious first of all and then step forward."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Kuwaiti emir to visit Iraq

KUWAIT (R) — The emir of Kuwait will visit Iraq late this month for the first time since he came to the throne in 1977, two Kuwaiti newspapers said Sunday. Al Watan and Al Qabas said Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah had been invited by President Saddam Hussein. They gave no details of the visit and there was no official confirmation. Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdulla Al Sabah went to Baghdad in February to try to settle a longstanding dispute about the Gulf islands of Warba and Buhiyan, which Iraq claimed in 1971. Kuwait supported Iraq during its eight-year-war with Iran which ended in a ceasefire in August 1988.

Fisherman given up as dead returns

BAHRAIN (R) — A Bahraini fisherman presumed dead after his boat sank 35 years ago has returned home. Local newspapers Sunday said Mubarak Al Mas Salem flew home from Madagascar having finally persuaded the authorities after more than three decades that he was a Bahraini. Salem's saga began when his sailing chowk sank in a storm en route to Oman in 1953. He was rescued by a French frigate bound for the then French colony of Madagascar. But having lost his papers in the storm he was unable to convince anyone he was a Bahraini so languished stateless for over 30 years. Recently he met a group of Bahraini tourists at a mosque in Madagascar's Mahajanga City who agreed to take up his case. They contacted his relatives in Bahrain who obtained a new passport for him and sent out to the Indian Ocean island to bring him home.

Nicaragua to open embassy in Abu Dhabi

KUWAIT (R) — The Nicaraguan foreign minister was quoted Sunday as saying his country would open an embassy in Abu Dhabi in the coming months. "Our country looks forward to establishing good and close relations with all Arab countries especially in the Gulf, and Nicaragua will open an embassy in Abu Dhabi in the next few months," Al Rai Al Aam newspaper quoted Miguel d'Escoto as saying in Belgrade. Al Rai Al Aam quoted top diplomatic sources in Belgrade as saying that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega will visit Kuwait and several other Arab countries soon. "Ortega is anxious to visit the area and establish relations with Arab countries," it quoted the sources as saying.

Iraqi gang of police killers broken up

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Sunday it had killed or captured all members of a gang that had been killing and kidnapping policemen in the past few days. A statement from the director general of police said his men had recently killed or arrested "all members of a gang which had kidnapped and attacked policemen in Baghdad and Diyala provinces," the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported. "The gang had stolen some cars and used them to attack and kidnap policemen, citizens and their property," the statement said. It did not give any further details. Eyewitnesses said security men in plain clothes had been stopping Volkswagen Passat saloon cars in Baghdad and searching for suspects and weapons. They said random checks began after a number of police and security officers were killed or injured by men driving similar cars.

Iran expresses support for SWAPO

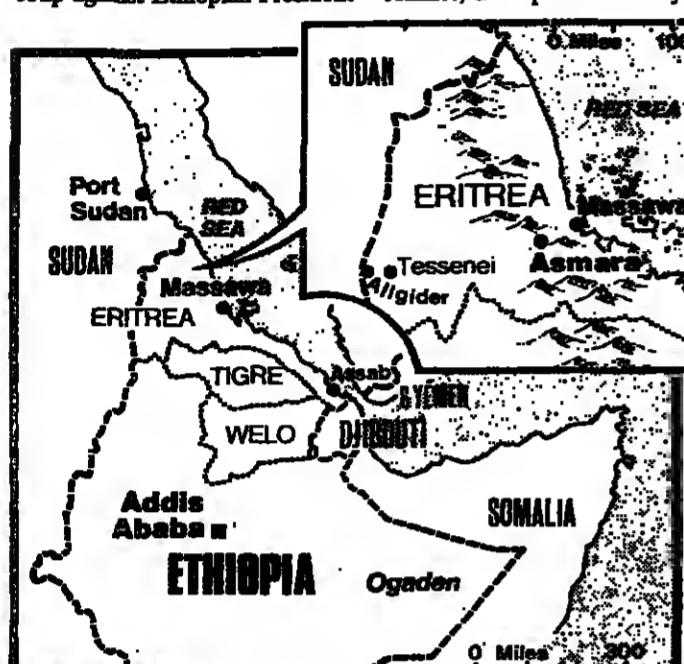
NICOSIA (R) — President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told the leader of the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO) Saturday that he had Iran's full backing. "Rest assured that we are beside you and ready to put our experience at your disposal," the Iranian News Agency (IRNA) quoted Rafsanjani as telling Sam Nujoma. "We also attach great significance to the independence of Namibia and know that you will be facing many problems in the future," Rafsanjani said. Nujoma is on his way to Namibia where SWAPO is expected to win elections due to be held in November under U.N. supervision. The poll is a prelude to ending South African control of the territory also known as South West Africa.

Leading Soviet intellectual in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — A leading Soviet author and parliamentarian arrived in Israel Saturday for a 10-day visit despite the lack of diplomatic relations between his country and Israel. Chingiz Aitmatov, a member of the Supreme Soviet, is scheduled to meet Israeli leaders including President Chaim Herzog, Prime Minister Moshe Arens and Finance Minister Shimon Peres, during his 10-day visit. Aitmatov, an award-winning Soviet author, is visiting as a guest of the Israeli Writers Association. He is scheduled to meet with Israeli intellectuals, but hinted that his visit may have political significance.

Mauritania, Senegal vary on casualties

CAIRO (AP) — Mauritania claims that 1,906 Mauritanians and Senegalese died during a bloody ethnic and racial dispute last spring, while Senegal puts the casualties at 360, daily Al Ahram newspaper says. In its early Sunday edition, Al Ahram did not give a source for its figures. Al Ahram reporters accompanied President Hosni Mubarak during his mediation visits to both African countries earlier this week. Neither country has given an official estimate of the victims killed after a border dispute spawned violence in the capitals of each country directed at nationals of the other. Al Ahram said that Mauritania claimed that 1,873 Mauritanians were killed in Senegal and 33 Senegalese killed in Mauritania. It said the Senegalese said that 60 Mauritaniens were killed in Senegal and 300 Senegalese killed in Mauritania. It quoted Mubarak as saying that "intensive dialogue" was further needed to end the dispute and that a six-member committee formed by the Organisation of African Unity last July would meet in New York Oct. 5 to continue mediation.



مكتب السعودية للمقارات
SAUDI REAL ESTATE

SALES DEPT.

To : ALL EMBASSIES

SUBJECT: Land suitable for Diplomatic Missions

Dear Sirs,

Saudi Real Estate is currently working on a project to accommodate the Arab and Foreign Embassies and Missions, within the area of Abdoun, and Abdoun village, next to the new American Embassy.

Certain Embassies such as the British, Spanish, Indonesian, and American, have recently moved to Abdoun area.

The advantages are as such:

1. It is a residential area and therefore very quiet, well planned and has its own individual style.
2. It is centrally located, has services such as transportation, shopping centres, banks... etc.
3. The government has given the area special security measures, because the residents of the area (such as Ambassadors, Ministers and the higher upper class society), which makes it ideal for Diplomatic Missions.
4. The Municipality is currently working on a new highway, which will connect Abdoun area to Queen Alia Highway through Swellifeyeh, «Delr Eghbar Area».

Now available, through our office are offers suitable for Embassies, Residences for Head of Missions and their staff. Empty lots, as well as Buildings and Villas.

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In case of any inquiries, Saudi Real Estate is available to answer any questions, and give you full details with plans upon request.

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Jabel Hussein P.O. Box. 925560 Amman - Jordan
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JORDAN TELEVISION
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CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish Tel: 630740

Assembly of God Church, Tel. 632785.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Association Tel. 637440.

St. Isidore Church Tel. 661757

Orthodox Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Association Tel. 622541.

Anglican Church Tel. 623363, Tel. 628543.

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771351.

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772561.

Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751.

International Church Tel. 683326.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 612255.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 615817, 621264

Protestant church 778336

Al Aqsa church 637055

Al Noor church 623678

Al Saleh church 636730

Yacob church 644945

Sinodal church 637660

Min./max. temp.

Amman 18°/33°
Aqaba 25°/38°
Deirat 22°/38°
Jordan Valley 24°/38°

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31.5, Aqaba 36. Humidity readings: Amman 25 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN: Dr. Muhammed Al Qurtini 776228

Dr. Kamel Al Mousawi 687778

Dr. Adams Zaghbi 688140

Dr. Mahmoud Al Awd 7411391

Picas pharmacy 661121

Faridah pharmacy 778336

Al Aqsa pharmacy 637055

Al Noor pharmacy 623678

Al Saleh pharmacy 636730

Yacob pharmacy 644945

Sinodal pharmacy 637660

Electric Power Company 626361

RJ Flight Information 08-33200

Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-33200

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

HOSPITALS

Khalid pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defense Department 661111

Civil Defense Immediate Rescue 630541

Civil Defense Emergency 159

Police 152, 621111, 637777

Fire Department 622225

Block House 622221

Highway Police 634342

Traffic Police 634390

Public Security Department 626321

Hotel Complaints 625900

Price Complaints 661176

Water and Sewage Complaints 637467

Amman Municipality Complaints 737111

Telephones Information (direct assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 610230

Central Asian Telephones Repair 623101

Abdul Telephone Repair 611101

Jordan Telephone 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 6803100

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

ACCORD WITH ITALY: The Cabinet has endorsed the final form of an economic and technical cooperation agreement with Italy and has entrusted the planning minister to sign it. (Petra)

JUDICIAL PANEL: The Judicial Council has approved a recommendation made by Justice Minister Rateb Al Wazni to set up a special committee to draw up the draft laws on justice. The committee includes legal proceedings, another for the penal code and a third for the evidence and notary public codes. (Petra)

NARCOTICS WORKS IN VIENNA: Colonel Hashem Al Qaisi, director of the Amman-based Arab Anti-Narcotics Office, left Sunday for Vienna to take part in a meeting by heads of national organisations charged with the application of laws and regulations on controlling drug trafficking and narcotics. The United Nations-sponsored meeting, which opens Monday, is scheduled to discuss questions related to the most up-to-date methods to combat narcotics regionally and internationally through international agreements and the application of the 1988 agreement in this respect.

BOYCOTT LIST: The finance minister has decided to blacklist 65 foreign companies because of their dealing with Israel. The minister also lifted his ban on 32 foreign companies.

MADABA ELECTIONS: Nearly 15,078 voters will Monday take part in municipal elections in Madaba to choose nine members for the municipal council, which has a four-year mandate. Madaba District Governor Miseh Tarawneh said that separate polling stations for males and females have been opened for the election, which begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 6 p.m. A total of 23 candidates are running for the new council.

STREET NAMED IN AQABA: Aqaba Municipality announced Sunday that it had completed the process of numbering and naming the main and side streets and public gardens in the city. It said the second stage of work which has just started entails numbering the communal areas.

CLINICS OPENED: The Health Ministry announced Sunday that it had opened two dental clinics and a health centre at Qatraneh south of Amman. The new addition raised to six the number of clinics that provide health services to the Karak area.

DRUG OFFENDER SENTENCED: The military governor has ended the military court's verdict sentencing Fayez Bassam Abdul Hamid Al Nabhan to four years in prison and a fine of JD 3,500 after finding him guilty of acquisition of hashish. (Petra)

Egyptian Book Exhibition: The third Egyptian Book Exhibition was opened Saturday in Salt. The week-long exhibition includes references in the field of history, geography, population, economy, commerce and literature as well as children's books. (Petra)

VOTING IN AJLOUN: Ajloun District Governor Mohammad Aidi Saturday chaired a meeting designed to facilitate the arrival of voters to polling centres. During the meeting thirty polling centres were assigned to help casting of votes for the upcoming parliamentary election. (Petra)

Committee seeks lower housing cost

AMMAN (Petra) — A social services sectoral committee affiliated to the Amman Region Development Council Sunday released a set of recommendations included in a report on the housing prospects within the Amman Governorate.

The report which was compiled following field tours of different areas by teams appointed by the Council for the task, recommended that a survey to sound beneficiaries' views about the nature and size of housing units should be conducted before any project can be implemented.

The report criticised the present arrangement under which a beneficiary end up paying almost double the cost of the unit at the end of the instalment programme.

It said that the cost of housing units should be lowered to the minimum especially for limited income groups.

The report voiced the committee's recommendation to the housing corporation to find out why the Sahab housing estate is not fully occupied following seven years after its construction.

The report said that Jordanians seem to shun living in housing blocks in outlying areas because of the lack of sewerage network, children's playgrounds, proper streets and the high cost of the units.

The committee recommended that a period of time given for the repayment of housing loans should extend to suit limited-income groups and that loans should be made available to such groups for purchasing land to set up their own homes.

The report urged the municipal authorities within the Amman area to define the size and nature of land to be assigned for housing projects and proposed that state-owned land be developed to absorb further housing estates.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * An art exhibition by Jordanian artists Khaled Ghawamneh and Abdallah Kamal, and the Syrian artist Wafaa Al Maari at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.
- * An anti-smoking exhibition which includes paintings and posters showing the harmful effects of smoking, at Philadelphia Hotel.

FILM

- * A French film entitled "Le Voleur de Crime" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

PETRA CULTURAL FESTIVAL

EXHIBITIONS

- * Handicrafts exhibition, which includes sculptures, embroidery, and ornaments and woodwork, at the Tourism Square.
- * The National Heritage Exhibition, which includes knitwear, textiles and simple agricultural tools used locally, at the Tourism Square.
- * The Archaeological Treasures of the Seljuk Exhibition inside the old city of Petra.
- * A photo exhibition on Petra inside the old city of Petra.
- * The Armed Forces Exhibition, including photos and posters depicting the armed forces development.
- * A comprehensive art exhibition, held by the University of Jordan, includes paintings, photos and sculptures at the Visitors Centre.
- * An exhibition of oriental artifacts and folkloric costumes at the Tourism Square.

LECTURE

- * A lecture, in Arabic, entitled "Parliamentary Life in Jordan" by Dr. Ghazi Rabeh — 3:00 p.m.

POETRY RECITAL

- * Poetry recital by Jordanian poets Majed Majali, Bassem Rafiq, Maftouh Na'amani and Ismail Salami — 4:30 p.m.

SHOWS

- * Concerts by Jordanian late player Abdul Mahdi Hassnat, the Arabic Youth Centre Troupe and by Radio Jordan Orchestra at Al Hareeth Theatre — 8:30 p.m.



Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Hikmat Al Khammash, his Syrian counterpart Youssef Monday hold talks in Amman (Petra photo).

Jordan prepares to mark Prophet Mohammad's Birthday anniversary

AMMAN (Petra) — A national committee organising celebrations for the Prophet Mohammad's Birthday anniversary announced Sunday that major celebrations will be held in the Kingdom on Oct. 11 on the eve of the anniversary.

The committee, which is chaired by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat, said that the main celebrations will be held at the Palace of Culture in Al Hussein Youth City, the Husseini Mosque, downtown Amman, and the King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Mosque in Abdali district.

The statement was made following a committee meeting

chaired by the minister who stated afterwards that the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries have decided at their recent meeting in Baghdad to jointly hold celebrations on the holy occasion.

A special celebration on the coming anniversary will be organised in Cairo at the invitation of the Egyptian government and with the participation of Al Awqaf ministers in the ACC states.

According to Khayyat, the committee has decided to set up a number of Islamic book exhibitions in various provinces and to involve various public and private sectors in the celebrations.

It called on various organisations to contribute to the celebrations and urged the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) to distribute financial and in-kind gifts to needy families.

He said special cultural and religious competitions will be organised, with the major event taking place at the University of Jordan.

Apart from the minister and the ministry's Secretary General Ahmad Hilayel, the meeting was attended by representatives of ministries of Awqaf, Information and Interior, as well as Amman Municipality, the Armed Forces and the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

Jordan to attend Arab industrial development talks in Damascus

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is to take part in the fourth meeting by a ministerial committee on industrial development due to open in Damascus Tuesday.

The committee, which groups ministers of industry in Jordan, Syria, Tunisia and Algeria will discuss arrangements and preparations for a seventh ministerial meeting by the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) which is scheduled to open on Oct. 25, and the organisation's board meeting which will be held at the same time.

Jordan will be represented at the meeting by a delegation led by Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Innab who will leave for the Syrian capital Monday.

A delegation, including the director of industry and other officials, has already left for Damascus for preparatory meetings.

Meanwhile, a responsible official at the Ministry of Industry

and Trade Sunday issued a statement in which he expressed the ministry's frustration with a number of local industries and factories which, he said have been found to be marketing products which do not conform to specifications and measurements set by the Ministry of Industry.

The official said that the Minister of Industry was forced to order the closure of five factories producing paint for a two-week period and a plant producing scented for one month; and has asked that the concerned factories withdraw their products from the local markets immediately.

The official said that the ministry was keen on providing consumers with high quality products so that the Jordanian citizens' confidence in national industry will increase and national products can have new markets abroad.

The official said that the ministry plans to continue maintaining

strict control and search campaign to ensure that the set of specifications for various industries are respected.

Jordan, Syria discuss reviving Hijaz Railway line for land transport

AMMAN (J.T.) — Launching a joint Jordanian-Syrian Maritime route and reactivating the Hijaz Railway line for land for land transport between Jordan and Syria were among the major topics for discussion between ministers of transport Hikmat Al Khammash of Jordan and Yousef Al Ahmad of Syria Sunday.

Bilateral cooperation in air transport and training of pilots and other relevant matters were also taken up at the meeting which was attended by delegation members on both sides.

According to the Syrian minister, transporting goods from the Far East to Aqaba by sea and then carrying them by land to Syria by the joint Jordanian-Syrian Transport Company's fleet of trucks and vice versa was discussed in detail at the meeting.

He said that the two sides were putting the finishing touches to the scheme before putting it into force.

Khammash and Ahmad discussed the prospect of reactivating rail transport along the Hijaz Railway which connects Amman with Damascus. Ahmad said that

this too was fully discussed with the help of the technical subcommittee which had met earlier at the Syrian border town of Deraa.

Reactivating rail transport between the two sides will take place following procedural matters, the Syrian minister added.

Ahmad noted that his visit to Jordan was to assess, with the Jordanian side, matters relevant to activities of the joint Land and Maritime Transport Companies, and the implementation of resolutions by the joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee meeting about boosting transport activities.

Ahmad said that Syria and Jordan will boost their bilateral cooperation in air transport through training Syrian pilots in

Jordan civil aviation training institutes, providing maintenance to Syrian civilian aircraft at Royal Jordanian (RJ) workshops and cooperating in insurance matters for aircraft owned by the Syrian and Jordanian national airlines.

Earlier, the two ministers co-chaired a meeting for the general assembly of the Jordanian-Syrian Land Transport Company.

The company which was established in 1975 is a fruit of close cooperation between the two sides in transport affairs, Khammash said in an opening speech.

The company's fleet has transported 1.5 million tonnes of goods between Jordan and Syria and the rest of the world since 1986, according to a report released last February after a general assembly meeting in Damascus.

The current meeting is scheduled to discuss a report by the chairman of the board of directors on operations and future programmes, and will review the company's financial situation in the light of an end of year and final accounts report about 1988 operations.

Assad leaves for Istanbul to open sixth Islamic-Christian dialogue

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad left for Istanbul to open the sixth Islamic-Christian dialogue deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan who is currently in the United States.

The minister is accompanied by an official delegation whose members will also submit a working paper dealing with pluralism in the holy Koran.

Assad will deliver a speech to the meeting, which is expected to be attended by 40 delegates from Switzerland, Turkey, Egypt, Greece, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Morocco, Lebanon, Pakistan, Tunisia as well as Jordan.

The meeting has been organised by the Royal Academy for Islamic Research, Al Al Bayt Foundation.

The fifth meeting of its kind was held in Switzerland last December when the concept of peace and justice in the Koran and the Bible was discussed along with the question of establishing justice worldwide, the role of religion in peace, human rights issues and racial discrimination, as well as Christian-Islamic coexistence throughout the ages.

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Balanced approach

IT IS certainly very good news that the government is contemplating amendments to the income tax law with a view to achieving a fairer distribution of tax burdens on citizens. The economic and fiscal hardships that the country has been experiencing of late have of course passed on to the people, especially the low income groups. The double digit inflationary rate in the Kingdom has made it imperative on the government to seek ways and means to ameliorate the conditions of the most affected among the Jordanian people. Lowering the rate of taxation on low income groups will of course help such groups cope with the new economic realities and the high cost of living that ensued thereafter. The question remains is whether such tax measures would be enough to alleviate the crisis that has hit Jordanians with fixed income.

Most probably this much-appreciated taxation amendment will not, by a long shot, be enough to rectify the anguish of many Jordanians who can ill-afford the current inflationary rate. The problem could even become more compounded if it ever becomes necessary to lift some of the current subsidies on some of the basic commodities.

It would seem sensible therefore to form an inter-departmental committee to examine this situation from all its angles and to submit thereafter some specific recommendations to resolve what is developing into an unbearable hardship. As things are, the incomes of the lower class in Jordan need to be augmented in one way or another. There are many who no longer can make ends meet and this emerging phenomenon will have social and other implications if left unattended to. There is already a rise in theft cases and before we know it the country could very well end up having a rise in other forms of felonies. That is why any agreement imposed on the country by international monetary institutions must be implemented with a human face. Otherwise the whole exercise will backfire and the end result could become more negative than positive.

In any case, this issue of how to alleviate the rising cost of living in Jordan is a complex one and clearly there is no singular simple and ideal solution. Most probably the answer lies in some balanced approach which can be best articulated by the proposed inter-governmental committee charged with this specific mandate.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

LOCAL Jordanian dailies Sunday discussed the intifada which has entered the 22nd month and the visit to Jordan by the South Yemeni president. Al Ra'i daily said that the full image of the Palestinian struggle has now reached the international community and of the oppressed people have succeeded in winning sympathy and support of all nations. The paper cited an example to support this view by reporting that one of the American television networks presented one and half hour programme featuring various scenes from the occupied territories clearly manifesting the barbaric attitude of the Israeli troops. Needless to say Jordan was at the forefront of the supportive countries and a staunch backer of the PLO leadership in directing the uprising towards full liberation and the establishment of justice, the paper noted.

Jordan, added Al Ra'i, has become the target of Israel's reprisals in the form of media and propaganda campaigns against the Kingdom and its national economy as a result of Amman's open and unequivocal stand in support of the Palestinian people. The continuation of the uprising and its success at all fronts can only increase Israel's isolation among world nations and can win further backing by peace loving nations, the paper said. Above all, it added, the intifada will remain the focal point in any joint Arab action towards re-establishing peace and security in the Middle East.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily launches a strong criticism against the leftist leaders in Lebanon who are waging a fratricidal war against Michael Aoun who heads a military government operating from east Beirut. Tareq Masarweh says that Jumblatt and his clique have been raising Iranian flags and issuing statements indicating that they are the only Arabs of Lebanon, meaning that Aoun and his faction are not. The writer also refers to statements by the leftists in which they had been implying that the Christians of the Arab World would be facing a similar siege like the one in east Beirut and they could face a similar tragedy. Masarweh says that other place in the Arab World is like Lebanon, and there can be no chance for any Christian in Arab countries to face a confrontation with his countrymen over sectarian or factional issues.

The writer urges Jumblatt and his group, who, he says, might be having hard times at present, to remain committed to Lebanon and its Arab character without taking an adverse course that could further cause deterioration in the situation. He also voices the Arab masses deep sympathy with the Lebanese people in view of their continuing tragedy.

Al Destour daily described a visit here by the South Yemeni president as a new impetus to bolster Jordanian-Yemeni relations on the one hand, and enhance joint Arab action on the other. The paper quoted the president as saying upon arrival that his country was keen on promoting cooperation with Jordan especially in economic, trade and cultural fields. The paper said that the visit was a good chance for the president to discuss with King Hussein a host of issues of concern to the two countries. It welcomed the South Yemeni leader in Jordan and said that his visit was bound to open a new chapter of fruitful cooperation between the two countries.

Weekly Political Pulse

Soviet reforms need speed adjustment

THERE are persistent fears that there is something wrong about the speed of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reformation policies. The extent of the dangers looming in the horizon of Soviet perestroika and glasnost, whether in the form of ethnic tremblings or heightened economic and political expectations suggest that the speed of change there is either too slow or too fast. But wrong it is. All the anxieties developing about the fate of President Gorbachev's future political fortunes have accelerated the pace of late and ominously foretell probable setbacks in the era that was ushered by him few years ago. This may suggest that Soviet perestroika and glasnost have got to change speed to survive and then to triumph. Which way to turn is of course the biggest gamble of all.

The emerging honeymoon between Moscow and Washington and the rapid replacement of the East-West confrontation by the now fashionable North-South rivalries are but some of the fruits of the Soviet reformations. There is clearly a deep conviction within the Soviet Union that for its reforms to succeed against enemies from within and outside the country, Moscow needs a breathing space and a prolonged grace period to adjust to its new role as part of the Western heritage. And of course there is no better way to obtain a reprieve from the normal restraints and constraints that have hampered the Soviet foreign policies in its

relations with the Western world than to supersede that traditional confrontational style of policy and diplomacy with a new much more relaxed relations with its former arch enemy the U.S.

Who ever dreamt that the Soviet Union would offer to sell its latest military technologies, like the MiG 29, to Western nations? And who ever thought that Moscow and Washington would co-sponsor U.N. resolutions on a multitude of issues and conflicts including human rights subjects? This metamorphosis in the Soviet thinking is Moscow's way of reminding itself and the rest of the world that its civilisation and heritage are "western" first and foremost and that it now seeks to reestablish its links with its roots.

But the foes of this Soviet attempt to rediscover itself are many, which makes its present course fraught with formidable dangers. This may suggest that time is of the essence and that the Soviet experiment does not have all the time in the world to make new adjustments to new realities. This prompts one to suggest that for perestroika and glasnost to succeed, its speed must accelerate rather than slow down. With the genie out of the bottle there is simply no way Moscow can reverse itself. And to slowdown would only give it many enemies, lurking in the background, more space and time to regroup and strike again as they indeed did with former Soviet leader Khrushchev.

Yet such speeding up may offer Antigone the higher-than-ever political and economic expectations, it will surely spell imminent danger to the ethnic problem in the Soviet empire. The Soviet Union has for all intents and purposes relinquished its former option to use crude force to quell ethnic demands for self-rule. It now must search for new accommodations with its many ethnic minorities, and time is not abundant. This search for new structures within the Soviet Union will require much ingenuity and frankness. Maybe the confederation idea could offer the best way out of the present dilemma of trying to reconcile what appears to be irreconcilable objectives. Still, to do just that would call for a confident and secure Moscow, something that has yet to happen. So it looks like there is a vicious circle in the dynamics of developments within the Soviet Union. The odds are still in favour of the Soviet reformation to bring about an end to the tortuous road that Moscow has got to take, while at least. But President Gorbachev needs to speed up perestroika and glasnost as far as economic and political reformation are concerned in order to start the process of healing wounds that will surely ensue from the mushrooming ethnic problem. The entire world has a stake in the success story of these Soviet experiments or rather the new revolution. A sped Soviet perestroika and glasnost would deal a death blow to all other attempts to reform the other corners of the world.

China's campaign to remould the young making little headway

By Andrew Roche
Reuter

PEKING — "Without the Communist Party, there would be no new China," a long-haired singer screams to a hard rock rhythm, mocking the words of a party anthem and winning laughter from young people in a Peking nightclub.

In the three months since troops shot their way into the city to crush pro-democracy protests, the authorities have successfully maintained their grip on the streets and silenced open dissent with a wave of arrests.

But the third step in the crackdown — to remould the hearts and minds of the generation of young Chinese who led the protests — seems to be making little headway.

Students returning to their campuses for their autumn term have begun a tough regime of political classes stressing loyalty to the party and vilifying "bourgeois liberalism," Peking's codewords for Western political ideas.

The entire October intake of new students at Peking University, hotbed of the democracy movement, is to be sent to army academies for a year's political and military training before taking up their academic courses.

"For a time, our campuses and lecture stages have been flooded with fashionable theories and Western trends, attacking Marxism and the leadership of the Communist Party," a front-page editorial in the official Guangming daily said on Sept. 3.

"It is an extremely serious question whether we are training the heirs to the revolutionary cause, or the gravediggers of the revolutionary cause," it added.

The solution, the paper said, was to strengthen ideological and political education on campuses and make students "team from peasants and workers" — an apparent reference to plans to send large numbers of graduates to work in rural areas.

"If this is done well... we can

turn our colleges into bases of socialist spiritual civilisation," it added.

One economics student described the sessions of ideological training, of up to 30 hours a week, as exhausting but futile exercises.

"We are not allowed to simply stay silent. Everyone has to publicly state their opinion of the unrest and the army action. So everyone says they support the government."

The authorities know most of us are lying but what do they expect? Students have been shot and arrested."

"I never wanted to go abroad before, I had hope in the reforms," said another, a post-graduate student at Peking University. "No I just want to get out of China."

The numbers of young Chinese seeking to go abroad — including teachers, intellectuals and private entrepreneurs, as well as students — have reached epidemic proportions since the June crackdown.

Western consulates in China report a wave of applications for student visas. But even with money and a place at an overseas university it is not easy to leave.

Peking announced in July it would step up scrutiny of the political soundness of outgoing students. Some U.S.-based Chinese students who returned home to visit relatives in May and June say they were forced to write declarations of support for the government before being granted exit visas to leave again.

"They say the aim is to stop students absorbing bourgeois liberal ideas while they are abroad," one student said. "If so, why don't the leaders bring their own children home?"

The offspring of several senior politicians, including the son of party chief Jiang Zemin, are studying in the West.

"What they really want to do is punish people who took part in demonstrations," he added.

Students say close political control and an atmosphere of fear on campuses rule out any possibility of unrest in the near future.

Qadhafi becomes internationalist

By Jonathan Wright
Reuter

TRIPOLI — After failing to spread his message in the Arab World, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi is looking to Africa, Latin America and the Pacific as theatres where he might win fame as a revolutionary thinker.

On the 20th anniversary of his coup on Sept. 1 he pledged to support liberation movements and anti-American governments in Panama, Namibia, Nicaragua, New Caledonia, French Guyana, South Africa and the French Indian Ocean Islands of Reunion and Mayotte.

The sole Arab cause he mentioned was Palestine and his anniversary audience only included eight of the 21 Arab heads of state.

His speech and one in Belgrade ignored inter-Arab rivalries and portrayed Libya's revolution as an internationally valid model.

He boasts that the United States and France acknowledge Libya's worldwide influence by objecting to Tripoli's support for

By Edith M. Lederer
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Public hostility toward the Soviet Union, common a few years ago in Kabul, has shifted to the United States, the chief supplier of the rebel rockets that pound government-held cities.

Six months after the Soviet withdrawal, many Afghans sought out a visiting American journalist to accuse the United States of financing death, instead of promoting peace. The rockets fired by the rebels kill far more innocent civilians than government soldiers.

"I hate the American government because they are assisting the opposition groups in our country. They're killing our people. We want peace to come to Afghanistan," said 22-year-old Takar, who lost three relatives in the rocketing of Jalalabad, the southeastern provincial capital that the rebels tried but failed to take after the Soviet pullout in February.

Public antagonism toward the Soviets was so strong after their troops poured into the country in December 1979 that few soldiers or their families ventured out of barracks or housing compounds into downtown bazaars and restaurants.

Afghans shouted shura, or

Soviet, at any Russian or Westerner who looked like a Russian,

sometimes accompanied by a shove, pinch or handful of tossed pebbles.

If Afghans learned a visitor was an American, there were usually smiles and pleases for the United States to supply anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons to Muslim guerrillas fighting to topple the Communist government.

The Soviets remain unloved and still keep a low profile, but not as hermits as before since they are no longer considered the enemy interloper. The Soviet embassy compound remains a favourite guerrilla rocket target, even though they seem to keep

Panamanian强人General Manuel Noriega and opposing

Libyan activity against French interests in the South Pacific.

Libyan ideologist Ibrahim Abu Khazam told a news conference that Qadhafi's theories of "direct democracy" and "partners not wage slaves" would spread like Christianity, Islam and Marxism.

"The Jamahiriya (Libyan) model is the only one that can satisfy the masses," he said.

"Capitalism and traditional Socialism have failed so people were seeking a new system."

Like a prophet who had not found honour among his own Arab nation, Qadhafi was already finding a response in other parts of the Third World, Khazam, deputy speaker of the General People's Congress (parliament), said.

"Burkina Faso, for example, is a quasi-jamahiriya," he added.

The body responsible for spreading Qadhafi's ideas is the World Matiba (meeting place), the Libyan version of Moscow's Comintern, founded in 1982.

The Matiba appears to have

received a much larger budget this year to hold seminars, publish glossy revolutionary magazines and pay scholarships to

Third World students of Qadhafi's green book at Tripoli's Green World Institute.

Diplomats said Libya last month told Jibril, lead of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, and Abu Musa, leader of the Fatah uprising group, if they could no longer expect hospitality without an invitation.

PLO sources said Libya cut off the rebels completely.

But Western diplomats said any action against them would be a setback to Arafat than a rebuke to their ally Syria in its policy in Lebanon.

Qadhafi last year said Chadian army commander Michel Djot was the legitimate head of the Lebanese government.

Despite this he remained good terms with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad. During the celebrations in Tripoli last week he awarded Assad Libya's Stedfastness Medal.

evitably brings up the United States.

The United States is no

viewed by the Afghans as the key player in the war.

U.S.-supplied rockets, te

rrorising Kabul. U.S.-backed guerrillas have failed to topple the government of President Najibullah, as Western diplomats had predicted and as many Afghans had expected, and the rebels' internal feuding has turned to warfare.

The United States closed its embassy in Kabul before the Soviet pullout, citing security concerns, and there are only a handful of Americans here right now, all missionary health workers.

The Afghan government is more popular than ever on

Moscow now for food, fuel, weapons and ammunition. The Soviet airlift continues with from 30 to 200 flights a day, according to diplomatic sources. Hundreds of supply trucks rumble down the Salang highway from the Soviet border to Kabul.

For some Afghans, the opportunity to confront an American visitor was not to be missed.

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Features

By W...

Food from the desert
for Egypt's millions

New lands, new lives

In Egypt, a baby is born every 20 seconds. The population is now 52 million and another 1.3 million people are added every year. The vast majority of Egyptians live on only four per cent of the land, in the Nile valley and delta — the only land traditionally available for agriculture. To feed its people, Egypt must import over 50 per cent of its food. This daunting problem calls for bold solutions. In the following article, Mary Lynn Hanley reports on two innovative government projects that are opening up new farmlands, increasing food supply, and creating productive employment.

NOUBARIA, Egypt — When Safaa El Shimy was studying agronomy at the University of Cairo a decade ago, the land on which she now lives, grows vegetables and raises ducks and rabbits was nothing but a barren stretch of sand.

Now it is part of a thriving agricultural community of university graduates, formerly landless farmers and private entrepreneurs. They are profitably growing beans, tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers and other vegetables, cultivating guava, apple, pear, citrus and olive trees, and raising livestock. They live in sturdy new cement houses, clustered together in villages served with clean drinking water and electricity, while nearby are schools, clinics and mosques, all connected by a good road network.

The transformation has taken place through a massive scheme to reclaim 875,000 hectares of desert in an area 150 kilometres west of Cairo. It is known as the Noubaria project, and on completion in the early 1990s it will increase Egyptian agricultural land by 20 per cent and create more than 75,000 new jobs. The effort is supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).

El Shimy personified two unusual features of the project: she is a university graduate and a woman. In Noubaria, both receive special attention. "After I completed my studies, I wanted to do something new or different," says Ms. El Shimy. "When the government offered 12.5 hectares of land in Noubaria, she decided to accept the challenge. With the plot, she received a house, two cows, technical advice and other support from the General Authority for Rehabilitation Projects and Agricultural Development (GARPAD).

El Shimy lives and works her farm alone. On some tasks, such as raising ducks, she co-operates with her next-door neighbour, another unmarried female university graduate. After two years she is making a good income, especially from breeding ducks and rabbits.

Thanks to the availability of Nile water stored by the Aswan dam, Egypt has reclaimed some 1.3 million hectares of desert land over the past nine years, 50,000 of which are in Noubaria. Initial reclamation involved seasonal flooding of the land — the system of irrigation traditionally practised in the Nile delta. But this led to waterlogging and salinity. Modern sprinkler and drip irrigation methods which strictly control water use are now being applied.

Forty per cent of the reclaimed land is given to university graduates and landless farmers against long-term soft loans. The rest is sold at market rates to small investors and agricultural companies. Thirty thousand settlers are already living in 30 new villages. Among them are 8,000 university graduates, including 800 women, who have received 107,500 hectares of land. Landless farmers have received 35,000 hectares; small investors, 300,000; and agricultural companies, 125,000.

Tomatoes flourish at Noubaria's training and extension farm.

"Here you are starting from zero," says I.M. Aly, Egyptian Director of the UNDP-funded project which provides FAO technical support for GARPAD. The government has invested US\$435 million to reclaim the area. Irrigation has required the construction of 2,000 pumping stations and 357 kilometres of cement-lined canals, which deliver water to farms from the main canal connecting Noubaria with the Nile. Also in place are 470 kilometres of paved roads, more than 7,730 houses, 16 clinics, 12 primary schools, ten markets, 19 mosques, 36 community development centres, four police stations and two fire houses.

One of the toughest tasks facing the Noubaria settlers is making the sandy soil productive. According to Mr. Aly, this can be done either by changing soil composition or careful management of water and fertilizer. As adding organic matter or clay to increase the soil's holding capacity would be impractical over such a large area, GARPAD is advocating carefully controlled irrigation and a system called "fertilization," which delivers just the right amount of pre-fertilized water to each crop.

GARPAD's 38-hectare experimental farm is developing varieties of fruits and vegetables suitable for cultivation in Noubaria, as well as optimum growing techniques. The farm is also producing seedlings of fast-growing casuarina and acacia trees, planted as windbreaks to protect plots from sandstorms. The plan is to distribute half a million of these seedlings to farmers every year. For the first time, wheat is being grown in the desert sand. This is especially significant since Egypt now imports 75 per cent of its wheat requirements. "Our next campaign will be to introduce crops producing vegetable oil," says Mr. Aly, who is planning trials with sesame.

In the farm's breeding programme for small livestock, GAR-

PAD specialists have found the Muscovy duck especially promising. It can reach a weight of four kilograms in 60 days — one-sixth the time it takes local species to grow that large. Installation of a new hatching unit will soon make it possible to distribute 5,000 one-day old ducklings to farmers every month. For rabbits, a new kind of cage has been developed, made of clay and for use underground. It attempts to duplicate the animal's natural habitat, protecting it from the fierce desert heat.

Lacking a large staff of extension workers, GARPAD is using pioneers like Ms. El Shimy as "contact farmers" to communicate its recommendations to new settlers. "We work with her and she works with others," says Mr. Aly. Through these efforts — and hard work by the settlers themselves — the reclaimed lands are yielding food, income and improved lives for a growing number of Egyptian families — UNDP.

A woman's saviour

By Jessie Street

WOMEN travel hundreds of kilometres, from as far away as Sudan, to deliver their babies at Rora Habab, in war-torn Eritrea, because they have heard about the nurse who put an end to circumcision.

Assefash Gabbet, an urban woman, has become a heroine for hundreds of rural women. In former years, the two would never have come into contact with each other.

Rora Habab is a mountain plateau accessible only through deep stony valleys and winding mountain roads after a journey of some 14 hours from Sudan, and then another 10 hours from northern Eritrea.

The Muslim population of about 12,000 people has traditionally been semi-nomadic, spending the winter months in Rora, and then, as water grows scarce with the coming of summer, travelling with their animals to Sudan and to the north-eastern coast for grazing.

As pastoralists living in the remote high mountains and with little contact with different ideas, they practised female circumcision for centuries.

Assefash works out of the Rora Health Centre, part of an extensive network of health services run by the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), which is fighting a civil war to gain independence from the Ethiopian government.

When she started work there in 1983, she found many severely malnourished women and children. Epidemics occurred because of poor hygiene and most of the women suffered infections as a result of circumcision.

"I started visiting the women in their homes, individually, to learn their problems. At first they were ashamed to tell me," she recalls.

At first they talked alone. Later, groups came together. Assefash started to gain their confidence further through basic health education.

She gradually learned that they did not want to be pregnant every year; that they suffered a pain as a result of circumcision.

They also said that they felt nothing would change for them if the men did not change their attitudes. They asked her to talk to the men.

Assefash had no hesitation in doing so — discussing with them intimate details of the sexual and gynaecological problems caused by circumcision. "They were embarrassed at first," she says, "to discuss such things with a woman, and a strange woman at that. I made them realise that circumcision had just become a ritual. In practice, they admitted that they would not know whether a woman had been stitched on the labia or elsewhere."

As a result of these persuasive discussions, no girl child in Rora has been circumcised since 1985.

This has been a major breakthrough: through a slow process of getting to know these remote communities, gaining their trust, and showing them the damage of this customary practice, Assefash and her colleagues have succeeded in ending the women's torment.

But still she does not rest. "Without home visits, it's useless to do health education," she believes. She encourages all the clinic staff and health committees to visit homes regularly, and she herself visits each of the five main village areas once a month. All her visits are on foot, as the health centre has no vehicle. To reach the furthest village is an eight-hour walk over the mountains, on steep rocky paths. She never misses a visit.

Anti-natal clinics take place weekly and Assefash organises and teaches courses for village health workers. Family planning and contraception advice is given to all women, and accepted by all the communities.

Rora Health Centre with its five satellite clinics is only one unit in an extensive network of EPLF health services which includes four hospitals.

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JORDAN TIMES, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1989

A task force for cancer

By Marwan M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — In the past two decades, cancer, its causes, effects and possible cures have been the main topic of concern at countless scientific, medical and human issues conferences, meetings, lectures and seminars. Although scientific research has alluded to various preventive measures to be adopted, a "cure" as such has not been found.

An increasing number of people are being effected by cancer all over the world. The West German news magazine, Der Spiegel, in a recent five-part feature article on cancer, suggested that as life expectancy is increasing the number of people who are found to have cancer is also increasing.

According to Der Spiegel, it could even be an indication that less people are actually dying from the disease than at any time previously.

These are speculations and hypothesis which are very difficult to prove. Whatever the reason, the number of people afflicted by cancer in the world is increasing, according to statistics of the American Cancer Society.

A lack of statistics on the number of people treated has made it difficult to make estimates in Jordan. There seems to be a general consensus that many Jordanians may have been afflicted with cancer while never having been diagnosed for it for a variety of reasons. Doctors say that many Jordanians, as a result of certain cultural considerations, believe it is shameful to be ill, never contact a doctor and sometimes subsequently die without anyone ever finding out what was actually wrong with them.

Dr. Ham Jumeirah, chief of hematology and the medical oncology section at the King Hussein Medical Centre, says: "There are certain beliefs that have developed over the ages if a woman is labelled 'ill.' Her unmarried sisters, daughters, and nieces may be inadvertently effected by her label and many people believe it is difficult for them to get married since they have a female relative who is sick. It could be explained as 'guilt' by association. Dealing with these beliefs

and trying to convince people that they are irrational is a very difficult task since some of these ideas have been embedded for such a long time."

The first cancer society in Jordan was established in 1968 with 100 initial members, under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein.

Today, the society has grown and boasts of 2,000 members, although only 150 are "active," according to Dr. Abdulla Awidi Abbadi, professor of medicine and hematopathology and chairman of the Department of Medicine.

Amal task force

The Amal task force, designed to be a mobile unit that is able to detect cancer in its early stages, was established in 1984 under the umbrella of the Jordanian Cancer Society. The task force was largely designed to enable early detection," says Abbadi. The mobile unit, which is fully equipped, serves as a very useful on-the-road cancer centre."

"The cancer centre is intended to serve as an educational institution which raises public awareness about cancer as well as recruits rehabilitation volunteers and raises funds to support its projects, including the Amal task force," according to Abbadi.

Minibuses to help selected patients get to hospitals for treatment and back home, and specialised training of two Jordanian social workers were among the investments made from the collected funds of the cancer society.

"We sent two social workers to the United States to receive specialised training in social work related to cancer patients. Previously we did not have a properly trained staff to deal with specific rehabilitation problems that cancer patients might have to deal with," says Abbadi.

Until three years ago the activities of the cancer centre were rather limited, consisting of scattered lectures here and there, according to Abbadi.

Voluntary work

Voluntary help for cancer patients has also increased over the last several years. "One of our aims is to get help for cancer patients whenever it is needed and whenever we can.

There are times when a family's wage earner is afflicted by cancer. Very often families, which are faced with such a situation, feel 'lost' and in such an instance it is necessary for us, as a cancer society, to provide support for the family.

Although at present we only have 12 semi-permanent volunteers, their help is extremely valuable. We need many more people whose neighbours, friends or relatives are incapacitated by cancer. Sometimes they need someone to help them with house work or just in help them go on a walk," says Abbadi.

Abbadi suggests that in certain housing complexes, such as Abu Nuseir, it would be ideal if "residents of the complex to help each other out in a time of need."

He points out that people deal with cancer in completely different ways. "There are basically two types of reactions to cancer. Those who 'will not face facts,' — who want in pretend that there is nothing wrong with them whatsoever — and those who do face the facts. Those belonging to the second category are increasing. It is psychologically very important for them to be able to meet with people who have had cancer and who have been cured."

According to both Abbadi and Jumeirah, many former cancer patients do not like being identified, and are often unwilling to help others with their "pains and fears."

"This is unfortunate since they could surely be of great help to others and we could find ways and means of keeping them unanimous to all but the patients concerned," Abbadi said.

Abbadi agrees that 90 per cent of all cancers are linked to environmental factors. "Some of these environmental factors can be controlled and some cannot. Dietary habits for example can be controlled. On the other hand some non-man-made chemical and toxic effects cannot always be controlled."

"A little extra work on the part of scientists will make our lives safer, so will a little extra work from environmental protectionist and with a little extra help from volunteers a lot of cancer patients in Jordan will have a more assured recovery."

EC finance ministers endorse serious moves towards unity

ANTIBES France (AP) — European Community (EC) finance ministers Saturday took another step toward uniting the monetary and economic policies of their dozen nations.

Nigel Lawson of Britain, a country which has resisted moves toward economic unity, it fears would threaten sovereignty, sketched an alternative path for the finance chiefs but appeared to gather little support.

The officials, meeting behind closed doors, endorsed proposals for closer consultations among the nations on economic and monetary matters.

"We are no doubt going in the right direction," said French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy. "It was a step forward."

Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, the trading bloc's executive body, said, "We did what we set out to do."

The drive for monetary union has added a new dimension to the common market's plans to fashion a single market by the end of 1992. By that date, the nations want to remove the many trade barriers that prevent the free movement of people, goods, services and money.

The ministers' decision to support the proposals — they still must receive formal approval — paves the way for the start next July 1 of the first phase of tighter economic and monetary coordination.

Danish Economics Minister Niels Helveg Petersen said, "there's no doubt that this meet-

ing really showed the instruments of the first phase can be adopted fairly soon."

The ministers meet twice a year in an informal setting to hash out financial issues.

The current meeting on the Mediterranean was their first chance to discuss in detail their leaders' decisions at a June summit in Madrid to begin moving toward monetary union. The leaders failed to back far-reaching proposals that would lead to a single currency and a European-wide central bank system.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has been an outspoken opponent of the calls for sweeping monetary changes. She argues such plans would force countries to give up some of their sovereignty to new institutions.

Lawson reiterated the British government's objection to forming a common currency and a central bank system.

Instead, he urged his colleagues to remove restrictions so that all the European currencies would be legal tender — acceptable for savings and transactions — throughout the Community.

He promised to give his colleagues, probably in November, a more detailed plan.

But Dutch Finance Minister Onno Ruding said the proposal looks like a kind of survival of the fittest ... good money would drive out bad."

He said the idea "did not receive much support" from other ministers who appeared "numbed" at the thought.

Bérégovoy said the ministers listened attentively. But, he said, "attention doesn't mean approval."

Brokers anticipate boom on Madrid bourse soon

MADRID (R) — The Madrid bourse, buoyed by prospects of a renewed Socialist government mandate after an early general election next month, is heading for a record high, brokers and analysts have said.

"I think it's going to surpass its historical high of 328.36 points in the next two weeks," broker Patricio Díez from Agentes Bolsa Asociados said of the Madrid stock exchange index.

"We've got political stability now that the election date is fixed. The belief is that the Socialist Party will win a third term and that will bring great stability to the market, which is what it wants," Hendrie said.

But most brokers said the rise would be accompanied by corrections as investors take profits.

"The long-term trend is for the bourse to rise and reach its historical high but there will be corrections because of profit-taking."

Lynn Hendrie from Ibercorp said.

The decision by Prime Minister Felipe González to call elections eight months early was widely welcomed by economists and markets, and the bourse index closed at a 1989 high Monday of 325.75. Profit-taking Tuesday clipped a mere 0.33 points off it, dealers said.

"The high is a bit artificial. The bourse will be corrected after the elections until the end of the year when the effect of new measures starts being felt," Agentes Bolsa's Díez said.

Brokers said the bourse had also taken a boost from good performances in Wall Street and Frankfurt and added that CATA, a new computer-assisted trading programme, was increasing volume.

The Madrid bourse was ushered into the electronic era at the end of July when it shed its centuries-old trading system. Several major stocks are now traded continuously.

In the first eight months of this year, 2.69 billion pesetas (\$216 million) worth of shares were traded — more than the 2.47 billion pesetas (\$199 million) traded for all of 1988 — and foreign investment has climbed 21.02 per cent.

The strong advance in recent days has been spearheaded by electrical shares, in high demand by foreign investors, and blue chip stock such as oil company Repsol, which entered the continuous market Monday.

'Honesty, austerity make few friends'

ISTANBUL (R) — Nurettin Sozen's problems as mayor of Istanbul began as soon as he was elected — the staff in his city hall office were so upset that they resigned. Even the teaboy.

Four months later Sozen, a Social Democrat, is getting used to unpopularity as he wages war on what he says is corruption and waste in Turkey's biggest city and financial centre.

"I am not from the business circles. I am from the people," Sozen, 52, told Reuters.

But the people as well as businessmen seem less than happy that Sozen is axing construction projects that would modernize his city of up to eight million people, where minarets and mosques dot the skyline and traditional bazaars thrive.

The projects were the brainchild of Sozen's centre-right predecessor Bedrettin Dalan, who wanted skyscrapers springing up in business districts and planned major sewage, road and rail works.

Sozen's priorities are different. His "humans first" policy gives a free litre of milk to 40,000 children every day and free water to some people. Free bread has been promised to the poor of

Istanbul's squatter suburbs. But 84 per cent of respondents told a poll in the right-wing *Tercuman* newspaper that Sozen had done nothing right since his election.

Only 20 per cent said they would vote for him again, compared to the 36 per cent that gave him his upset victory in March.

"I have to respect what Sozen's team is trying to do," said a foreigner trying to revive a major municipal project.

"They are scrupulous, honest, don't take bribes and seem to care about preserving the ancient fabric and appearance of the city," he noted.

Even Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, leader of the ruling Motherland Party to which Dalan belongs, has come under scrutiny.

"We are investigating one of the prime minister's houses," said Sozen, a Social Democrat populist party member. "If it was built illegally we will pull it down."

A bad press, a hostile central government and a billion dollar municipal foreign debt are other problems facing Sozen.

"The finances are a shambles," said a foreign banker who said he

had suspended contacts with the new custodians of the 3,000-year-old city spanning Europe and Asia.

A senior treasury official said municipality statements that gave a wrong impression that Istanbul would not service its foreign debt were just one sign of the new team's inexperience.

Dalan told Reuters: "Sozen has done nothing except fight me. People who fight have no time to do real work. Leadership is needed." He added he was considering a comeback to politics at national level later this year.

Dalan complained that his administration's 4,500-shop Perpa complex, the world's biggest commercial floorspace under one roof, was lying empty due to a land dispute.

"I could have solved that 20 times by now," said Dalan, known for his aggressive methods and financial flexibility.

Sozen, highly critical of Dalan's financial policies, shook hands with him only briefly at a city hall transfer of power ceremony.

"Dalán's general secretary, four undersecretaries, even the teaboy and cleaner just dis-

appeared," after the election, Sozen said.

"It took three accountants a whole week to work out where we stood," he noted.

Critics say Sozen can be petty — as when he changed the signs of Dalan's "Istanbul Metro" to read "Fast Tramway," because it does not run underground.

Already opened by Dalan and Ozal, the 8.5-kilometre track will be officially reopened by Sozen this month. Dalan said this was not Sozen's only reopening ceremony.

Sozen said new construction was in the pipeline. Tenders were planned for a new metro line and a rail tunnel linking Europe and Asia under the Bosphorus.

But officials say the \$1.8 billion cost is unlikely to be approved soon by the central government.

Ural Hakverdi, local partner in the Asea-Brown Boveri consortium still building the "Fast Tramway" from old Istanbul to the airport, said Sozen had not done a bad job as mayor.

"He had two roomfuls of contracts to go over when he took office," Hakverdi said. "The people expect wonders from each... lord mayor. But everything needs time."

Vietnam wants \$300m bank loan to end IMF embargo

HANOI (R) — Vietnam is trying to escape from its economic dead-end street by gaining International Monetary Fund (IMF) support for a \$300 million commercial bank loan that would help unlock new IMF money, a senior Vietnamese banker said.

Nguyen Cong Hai, deputy director of the foreign department of the State Bank of Vietnam, said the aim was to generate funds to implement a one-year stabilisation plan and to restore normal relations with the fund.

The plan, to be put before IMF and World Bank meetings in the next few weeks, reflects hope in Hanoi that Western countries will ease their isolation of Vietnam after it withdraws its troops from Cambodia later this month.

However diplomats and foreign bankers here said there was considerable doubt that the United States, which wields immense influence at the IMF and World Bank, would soften its line against its old communist enemy to allow the package.

Hai said in an interview Vietnam and proposed that the French bank Banque Francaise Pour Commerce Externe, which has an office in Ho Chi Minh City in the south, be asked to lead a consortium of banks to raise \$300 million in loans.

Of this about \$130 million would be used to pay off IMF arrears dating from the end of 1988. Because of those arrears the fund barred Vietnam access to its facilities.

The remaining \$170 million would be used to help put into practice a 12-month plan, worked out with IMF guidance, to fight inflation, lower the yawning budget deficit and build up the tiny hard currency reserves.

Clearing the IMF arrears would make Vietnam, whose 65 million people live in one of the world's poorest economies, once again eligible for several IMF

facilities.

"We would be eligible for structural adjustment and enhanced structural adjustment facilities which, according to our IMF quota, could mean \$350 to \$400 million," Hai said.

Vietnam depends on its communist allies for most of its foreign trade and investment but needs the flexibility of hard currency and Western management skills as it reshapes the economy and tries to compete with more nimble Asian states.

Members of a World Bank delegation that conducted an economic survey of Vietnam in the last three weeks said they were extremely impressed by the government's stability programme, which has had a dramatic effect in the last year.

Cuts in subsidies and monetary restrictions and a bold decision to create a realistic rate for the dong currency have brought inflation down from dizzying three-figure heights to about four per cent per month, according to official figures.

The black market mark-up on the dong has been virtually abolished.

Bankers like Hai, who appear to have the full backing of the politically-conservative politburo, are determined to push ahead with their tightening in the next year, whether or not the IMF supports their plan for clearing arrears and generating new capital.

The aim is cut inflation to one per cent by next September. State expenditure would be further reduced at the level of state sector borrowing.

Broader taxation systems would come in, including higher taxes on imports, in a drive to balance the budget.

Hai said it was essential to increase hard currency reserves, which were now about \$10 million or the equivalent of just one

week's imports.

Political decisions are still pending on some aspects, including the extra taxation, and officials realise the new measures will create further burdens on society.

In the short term there will certainly be more difficulties in daily living," said Hai. "State employees will be particularly affected."

A state bank official said about 40 per cent of industrial produc-

tion was idle after radical restrictions on money supply in March. Some small enterprises had closed.

The official said unemployment, already high, was given a new twist with some state enterprises shedding up to 70 per cent of their staff.

"The state bank governor will detail the new economic austerity proposals in an address to the IMF/World Bank meeting,

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, September 9, 1989		Central Bank official rates	
Buy	Sell	French franc	90.5 91.4
608.5	614.5	Japanese yen (for 100)	412.5 417.4
935.2	944.6	Dutch guilder	272.3
304.9	307.9	Swedish crown	90.7 91.6
332.9	336.4	Italian lire (for 100)	42.6 43.0
		Belgian franc (for 10)	146.0 147.5

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: OBSE BUSHY HAMMER INTACT
Answer: If horseback riding becomes an "addiction," this can be expensive—THE "HABIT!"

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: OBSE BUSHY HAMMER INTACT
Answer: If horseback riding becomes an "addiction," this can be expensive—THE "HABIT!"

Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz
Illustrations by George Wunder



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



Sports

France to invite mixed South African team

AGEN, France (R) — The French Rugby Union Federation (FFR) is to invite a South African team to tour France, on condition half the side is coloured (mixed race) or black, the FFR said on Sunday.

The governing board of the FFR said no dates had been fixed for the tour, but said South African Rugby Board (SARB) President Dannie Craven had agreed provisionally.

The tour decision was made at

a meeting on Saturday of the FFR's governing board in this south-western French town.

The only condition for the tour "is that the team must be made up of 50 per cent of coloured players," one board member said.

The French government, which could stop the tour, has said it opposes all sporting relations with South Africa because of its apartheid policies.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHANIF
© 1989 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

READ THEM AND WIN

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

* 7 6 4

Q K Q 2

C Q 7 5

* J 9 3

WEST

* A K 2

Q A 10 5

Q J 9 8 3

* A 10 8

SOUTH

* 10 8 5

V 3 9 6 4 3

Q A K

* K Q 6

The bidding:

South: 1 NT

North: 2

Pass: Pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

If you read bridge columns, ours

included, you might get the impression that you have to be in game or slams for the play to be interesting.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Most low-level contracts feature sparkling play and defense.

West's no trump overall showed the equivalent of a trump opening bid.

Because of his fit, North

might have considered a penalty double rather than two hearts—de-

clver could have been held to six tricks.

Against two hearts, West led the king of spades and East dropped the queen. This play guarantees either a singleton queen or possession of the jack as well. Since a singleton queen was impossible (that would have given South a six-card spade suit), West knew he had an entry to his partner's hand. He also knew that he could expect no other help from his partner—all the points in the pack were accounted for.

For the defense to prevail,

the defenders would need to take three spade tricks. That, together with the score of heads and clubs, would provide the defensive book. What was the setting trick coming from?

A trump promotion was impossible because of dummy's holding.

That left only a club ruff. So at trick two West abandoned spades in favor of switching to the ace of clubs and another. Declaler won with a trump, but West wasted no time. He climbed up with the ace, cashed the king of spades and continued with a trump to East's jack. The obvious club return and West's ruff for a one-trick set completed an excellent defense.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1989
By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Now you are able to reduce the ideas of the past few days into practical reality, especially where anything connected with money is concerned. An old friend reenters your life now.

ARIES: Now is time to make a friend of that talented person from a distance. Go out on the town on invitation given by a cooperative associate.

TAURUS: A person comes from afar who can help you in a career matter. If you present ideas in inspired fashion you can get co-workers to go along with your wishes.

GEMINI: Delving into every aspect of your workplace gives you the ability to handle it better. Invite the musical persons available into your home.

MOON CHILDREN: Invite persons of prosperity into your home and get good ideas. Avoid taking trip with attachment where there is any danger of accidents.

LEO: You can take up those loose ends on your job and finish them efficiently. Spending more on your home than you can afford would be a great mistake now.

VIRGO: Make an effort to meet a person of different background who can be helpful to you. Despite problems show family you are able to meet emergencies head-on.

LIBRA: You are the one to get charming friends together at social activities now. Take time out with

family to visit and cheer one who is in some distress.

SCORPIO: Business decisions are difficult but adopt a new idea towards your choices. You now have a chance to increase the harmony at your desks.

SAGITTARIUS: You feel tied down in business but that's no reason to shirk your basic duties. Let family be more aware of your happiness at being with them.

CAPRICORN: Get a friend to aid you in putting across a work idea to an executive. Study your means by which you improve your business wishes.

AQUARIUS: An expert will confidentially give you some data that aids your progress. A day to open the doors of your home to entertain chumbers from a distance.

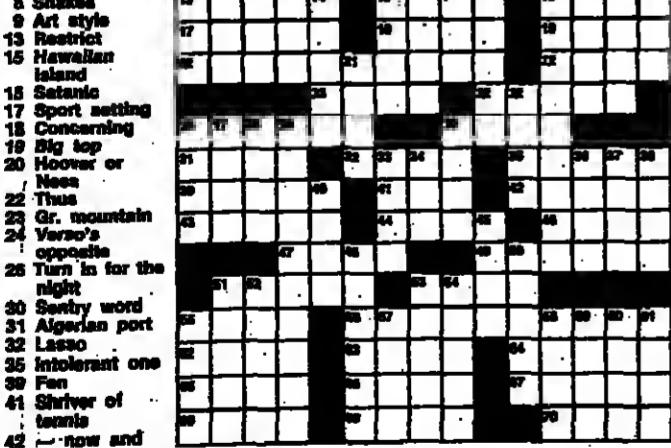
PISCES: Plan with family for a trip by putting some money aside. You want to make a friend of a highly placed person but time is not yet ripe.

TODAY'S CHILD: If your child were born today he or she will insist on knowing all about the value of property, stocks, bonds, escrows, mortgages, prime bank notes and CD's to adjust the education along those financial lines and your progeny will have a great chance to become a financial wizard.

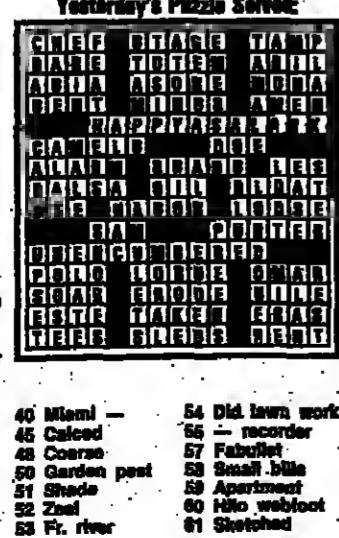
THE STARS IMPEL: They do not compel. What you make of your life is largely up to you.

THE Daily Crossword

by Louis Sabin



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Italy brings touch of class to 1990 world cup finals

By Jill Sergeant
Reuters

ROME — Soccer, opera and France Zeffirelli — that's part of the line-up Italy will field during the 1990 World Cup soccer final.

The plan is for a superstar cultural promotion driven almost at bringing in the tourists long after the final whistle of the month-long tournament.

Eager to show off its best experts, the Italian organisers of the World Cup have put together a programme with more than a touch of class starring the world's three most famous tenors and 12 of Italy's best known film makers.

Luciano Pavarotti, Plácido Domingo and José Carreras have agreed to sing together for the first time at a charity concert in Rome on the eve of the July 5 World Cup final.

The concert of Opera arias and popular songs, fruits of a four-year effort to unite the three singers on the same stage, will take place in the ruins of Rome's third century Baths of Caracalla.

Neither the singers nor the organisers find anything bizarre in the marriage between soccer and culture.

"Music and sport share an international language which is understood by everyone," Spanish-born Domingo told journalists at a Rome news conference.

announcing the concert.

"All three of us like football very much and I'll be hoping to see Spain playing Italy in the final the next day," Domingo added.

In Italy, where politicians, business tycoons and artists share with ordinary fans a pride and enthusiasm for soccer rarely seen in most other European nations, sport and classical music often go hand in hand.

Cycling, Italy's second national sport, is strongly associated with the racing arias from Giacomo Puccini's opera "Turandot" which accompanies daily television coverage of the annual three-week Giro d'Italia race.

The same piece — "Nessun Dorma" recorded by Italy's Pavarotti — will be used to introduce short films on each of the 12 Italian cities hosting the soccer final and looks set to become the unofficial theme tune of the tournament.

Pavarotti, a fervent fan of Turin club Juventus, will also sing in an entertainment spectacular during the December 9 draw in Rome for the final.

Italian director Zeffirelli, a keen supporter of first division Fiorentina — Bernardo Bertolucci, Michelangelo Antonioni, Lina Wertmüller, Francesco Rosi and Ermanno Olmi lead the squad of 12 film-makers called up to take part in the six-billion lire (\$4.5-million) film project.

Rock in Rome, Pavarotti,

Domingo and Carreras say they will be singing for "solidarity and joy."

"Let's hope it will be a message of peace and hope for the world — and that this message will be remembered by the soccer fans," Sports Minister Carrera said.

Only Federico Fellini has declined the invitation.

The eight-minute films will be shown on television to a worldwide audience expected to be in the region of 15 billion spectators over the 31 days of the tournament.

"The eyes of the world will be on our country and we want them to see a complete panorama of what Italy can offer," said Italian Sport and Tourism Minister Franco Carrara.

Italy expects eight million extra tourists during the competition. But because many will be from countries which have no soccer tradition and no team playing in the finals, it will provide a full programme of non-sporting events to entertain them and when their appetites for a return visit.

In Milan, the La Scala opera house is planning a gala concert with conductor Riccardo Muti on the eve of the opening match on June 8, and the season will be extended into July for opera starring Domingo and Soprano Mirilla Frey.

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Royals 3, Twins 1

Bret Saberhagen pitched three hit ball through eight innings, becoming the American League's second 18-game winner, and Bo Jackson had three RBIs as the Kansas City Royals beat the Minnesota Twins 3-1.

Jackson had a pair of doubles to enable the Royals to remain 3 games behind Oakland in the AL

American League Roundup

West. The loser was Rick Aguilera, 1-4.

Brewers 7, Mariners 3

Paul Molitor went 5-for-5 and George Canale's run-scoring single broke a fourth-inning tie as the Milwaukee Brewers beat Seattle 7-3, handing the Mariners their 10th straight loss in the Kingdome.

It was Milwaukee's fourth

straight victory and Seattle's fifth straight in the first eight innings, before finally halting their 10th win in the last 12 games.

The Blue Jays blew three separate leads, all during the first eight innings, before finally halting their 10th win in the last 12 games.

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India makes fresh offer to Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (AP) — India has promised to order a ceasefire if Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa accepts its proposal for the withdrawal of Indian peacekeeping soldiers, a senior official said Sunday.

Also Sunday, military officials said they feared at least 150 Tamil civilians may have died since Friday in the latest Indian military offensive against Tamil rebels in northeastern Sri Lanka. An Indian official denied the charge.

A government communiqué, meanwhile, reported nine people were killed Sunday in continuing ethnic violence.

India, seeking to end a diplomatic stalemate over its peacekeeping troops in Sri Lanka, announced last week a new proposal for withdrawing the 42,000 soldiers had been sent to Premadasa for approval.

Details of the proposal, worked out last week during the Non-Aligned Summit in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, were not disclosed.

A senior Sri Lankan government official said on condition of not being identified Saturday that India agreed to pull its troops out of Sri Lanka by Dec. 31, two months earlier than previously offered.

Another government official, also speaking on condition of anonymity, said Sunday that India also promised to order its troops to halt all military operations against the Tamils once the proposal was accepted. The rebels would be asked to observe the cease-fire, he said.

The official said the cabinet,

An Indian High Commission official denied the allegations and said Indian forces were conducting normal search operations in the district, known to be a major hideout of the Tamil Tigers.

"The IPKF (Indian peacekeeping forces) will never resort to such indiscriminate attacks under any circumstances," the official said on condition of not being identified.

A government communiqué said nine people had been killed in ethnic violence since Saturday. The victims included three Tamil rebels killed by Indian troops, three Sinhalese radicals killed in the south and three unidentified Sinhalese whose bodies were found by troops. The communiqué gave no details.

More than 11,000 people, including 1,000 Indian soldiers, have died since the Tamil rebellion began in 1983.

Tamils comprise 18 per cent of the island's 16 million people and claim they are denied jobs and education by the majority Sinhalese, who make up 75 per cent of the population and dominate the government and military.

Officials at the joint operations command in Colombo expressed fears that at least 150 Tamil civilians have died since Friday in a fresh Indian military offensive in northeastern Mullaitivu district.

The officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, said Indian troops used helicopter gunships, artillery and mortars in an attack on the villages of Alampi, Semmalai, Thameroondu and Kalkudah, about 280 kilometres northeast of Colombo.

Military officials said hundreds of Tamil civilians were fleeing the area.

The official said the cabinet,

which will discuss the proposal Wednesday, probably would accept the Dec. 31 deadline but would ask India to provide a more detailed pullout timetable.

In New Delhi, a foreign ministry spokesman declined comment.

India deployed its soldiers to Sri Lanka in July 1987 to enforce a peace accord at ending a rebellion by Tamil militants demanding a separate homeland in north and east Sri Lanka.

The largest and most militant group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, rejected the Indian-mediated agreement, saying it fell short of its demands, and turned its guns on peacekeeping forces.

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Pinochet prepares to surrender presidency

SANTIAGO (R) — General Augusto Pinochet marks the 16th anniversary of his military government in Chile Monday, apparently resigned to surrendering the presidency but determined not to lose all his power.

Pinochet, who must make way for a civilian successor following December's elections, has vowed to stay on as commander in chief of the powerful Chilean army following the handover.

The fiercely anti-Communist general, who led a bloody military coup Sept. 11, 1973, appears determined to protect the military's future political influence enshrined in the country's constitution.

"He may have lost the presidency, but he clearly is not resigned to abandoning all his power," one Western diplomat said.

Some opposition leaders fear that Chile could follow the same path as Panama, where General Manuel Noriega is the country's de facto ruler despite holding no formal government post.

Chinese ordered to carry ID cards, learn slogans

PEKING (R) — Chinese were ordered Sunday to carry identity cards and learn 40 slogans to mark the 40th anniversary of the Communist state, further signs of hardline tightening their grip.

Major newspapers published lists of the slogans as part of a propaganda blitz in preparation for Oct. 1, the 40th anniversary of the day Mao Tsetung announced the founding of the People's Republic in Tiananmen Square.

Slogans one and two hail the anniversary and the "great achievements" of "socialism modernisation and reform" slogan number three is "warmly hail the victory over the turmoil and counter-revolutionary rebellion."

Hundreds, perhaps thousands, died when the army moved into central Peking June 4 to crush

loss in the plebiscite, the armed forces believe they are in a strong position to lay down conditions for a smooth transfer of power.

Behind the military's tough stance lies fear about how an opposition government would deal with the issue of human rights violations, many political analysts believe.

Human rights officials say hundreds of people disappeared or were executed during and after the coup. Continuing allegations of rights abuses brought repeated condemnations of the Pinochet government from the United Nations and other international bodies.

Military chiefs have made clear they will not allow any revision of an 11-year-old amnesty law protecting members of the armed forces from prosecution for any alleged abuses in the first years of their government.

Opposition parties say that if they are victorious in the Dec. 14 vote, they will seek to change the constitution to curb the military's role.

Political analysts say that despite the political setback the military suffered with Pinochet's

coups, it still is at large and there is widespread disbelief in the official version of the events of that day.

"The most dangerous place for soldiers is near the history museum where there were many civilian deaths and many relatives eager for revenge," a taxi driver said.

Diplomats said security surrounding leading Chinese officials had been tightened.

From Oct. 15 citizens will have to carry ID cards — the first time this has been compulsory since 1949, the Peking Daily said

large-scale student-led protests. But there are signs that "victory" has not been achieved. Several soldiers stationed on the streets of Peking have been murdered since June 4, student leaders on a wanted list are still at large and there is widespread disbelief in the official version of the events of that day.

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More than 570 million cards have been issued since 1985, 74 per cent of the total to be given out, it said.

The leadership has blamed the protests in part on "bourgeois liberalism," meaning Western political ideas.

The Legal News Saturday quoted Public Security Minister Wang Fang as telling a meeting of police ideological work that bourgeois liberalism had spread widely in recent years and could not be eliminated in a short time.

"A very small number of counter-revolutionaries have been very active, with an increase in reactionary slogans, notices, threatening letters, explosions and sabotage," he added. He gave no details.

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